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## How to submit a book for State of the Arts

To submit a book by a Montana author for inclusion in *State of the Arts*' "About Books" section:

Please send a copy of the book to *Lively Times*, 33651 Eagle Pass Trl., Charlo, MT 59824; or submit the following information electronically to [writesus@livelytimes.com](mailto:writesus@livelytimes.com) or [mac@mt.gov](mailto:mac@mt.gov):

- Title, author, publisher, publisher's address and month/year published;
- Price and whether it's hard- or softcover;
- A brief description of the book (no more than 200 words), and a short bio of the author;
- A cover image: minimum 200 dpi in pdf, jpg or tiff file;
- If other publications or authors have reviewed the book, send a brief sampling of those remarks.

If you would like us to return the book, include a note with it saying so. (We will pay for shipping.)

E-books: We'll also mention books that are only electronically published: send title, author, a cover image, website for downloads, and a brief paragraph about the book.

Books submitted to *State of the Arts* appear in this publication at the Montana Arts Council's discretion and as space permits, and will not necessarily be reprinted in *Lively Times*.

## ABOUT BOOKS

### *Dawn in El Dorado, The Early Mining Camps and Settlement of the Montana Territory*

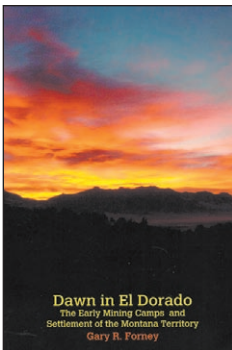
by Gary R. Forney  
Published 2013 by Timberline Books in Ennis, MT  
\$25 softcover; \$35 hardcover

As we approach the Sesquicentennial of the creation of the Montana Territory, author and historian Gary Forney looks back at the state's formative years. *Dawn in El Dorado* chronicles the tragedies, intrigues and some of the colorful characters that shaped the 1860s and laid the foundations for a new state.

The discovery of gold in the Alder Gulch in May 1863 not only created prodigious wealth, but terrible violence, turbulent political battles, and attracted waves of immigrants from virtually every state, dozens of countries, and all walks of life.

"This was a time when the communities and institutions which would form Montana were awakening, and a time when Civil War and the subsequent battles of Reconstruction were reforming the United States," writes Forney. "Montana not only became a place of refuge during this time, but a land of new beginnings and great hopefulness. Many who came here had traveled for months, risking their lives and all their earthly possessions, for only the opportunity to start a new life."

The author, a retired college administrator, has written three books on early Montana history and is active with the Virginia City Preservation Alliance and the Elling House Arts and Humanities Center.



### *Edward Adrift*

By Craig Lancaster  
Published 2013 by Amazon Publishing, Las Vegas, NV  
\$14.95 softcover

Craig Lancaster first introduced readers to his likeable protagonist, Edward Stanton, in his novel, *600 Hours of Edward*. Stanton is a middle-aged man with Asperger's syndrome, an obsessive-compulsive condition that guides him to live his life according to a rigid schedule.

Daily rituals are at the core of Edward's existence, and in this sequel, his routines are upended in many ways. He loses his job, his therapist retires, and his best friends move to Idaho. Even his favorite TV show, re-runs of "Dragnet," is discontinued.

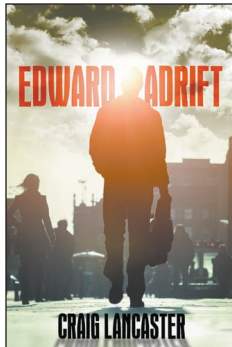
He is truly adrift. When his friends call from Idaho with a problem, he makes the momentous decision to embark on a road trip in his red Cadillac. This adventure takes Edward far from his comfort zone.

He quickly finds more than he bargained for when his friend's troubled teenage son invites himself along on the ride to a place in Colorado that Edward has been dreaming about of late, where his family used to go when he was a child.

The dialogue between the traveling companions ranges from hilarious to deeply revealing, opening avenues of conversation that help and heal. While in Colorado, the two stay at a small motel and thus enters the next significant character in Edward's drifting life. The proprietress, Sheila Renfro (Edward always calls her by her first and last name), is not put off by Edward's eccentricities. She has a few of her own.

Sheila's gentle pursuit of a romantic relationship with Edward is endearing, funny, and often frustrating.

Back home in Billings, life is not the same for Edward, even though he was only away 11 days. Perhaps the road trip helps him realize that "adrift" is not in his comfort zone. The Cadillac is parked in the driveway.



— Judy Shafter

### *Close to Home, Photographs*

By Richard S. Buswell  
Published May 2013 by the University of New Mexico Press, Albuquerque, NM  
\$29.95 hardcover

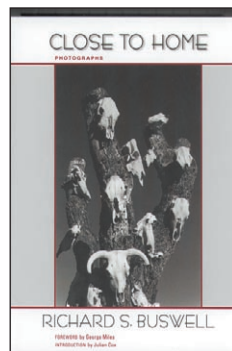
Helena physician and photographer Richard Buswell aims his camera at forgotten shards and hidden relics of Montana history: a frayed curtain behind jailhouse bars, the remains of giant ponderosa, half buried in a saline seep, the worn edges of a chap fringe, the contours of jawbones and skulls, the strange calligraphy of worn wood and coyote bone.

Julian Cox, chief curator of the Fine Arts Museums of San Francisco, calls Buswell a "consummate technician" who "produces photographs that are beautiful, choice objects." These black and white images, are crafted the old-fashioned way, shot with fine-grained 35mm film and printed on gelatin silver paper. Both artful and factual, they invite the viewer to see often-obsolete objects afresh – the symmetry of a potato fork, seedpods in a corral, a dangling light socket, shell casings in the trunk of a tree. It's not so much the narrative that mesmerizes, but the pattern, texture and poignancy of his images.

As a photographer for more than 40 years, Buswell has cultivated a dedication and facility that shows in this collection. It's also implicit in his body of work, which has been included in 39 solo museum exhibitions and 230 group shows, and is part of the permanent collections of more than 200 art museums, including the Smithsonian, the Corcoran Gallery of Art, and the George Eastman House International Museum of Photography and Film.

George Miles, curator of the Yale Collection of Western Americana, writes in the foreword that images in *Close to Home* "bridge Montana's past and present by making historical artifacts a part of contemporary contemplation and conversation ... They are a wonderful addition to the visual record of the American West."

The publication coincides with an exhibit by the same title, on display at the Montana Museum of Art and Culture in Missoula through Aug. 3.



— Kristi Niemeyer

### *Caught in Passing, Poems*

By Zan Bockes  
Published 2013 by Turning Point, Cincinnati, OH  
\$18 softcover

Missoula poet Zan Bockes digs deeply into loss and unearths memories "rattling with bones," like the gold box that bears her father's ashes.

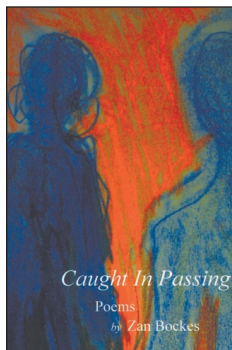
She recalls clinging "bare-bottomed/ to the otoman,/ my father wielding the whipping yard/ for some forgotten/ transgression 40 years before." And the same parent, retrieving her after she strays from their tent at a campsite on the Platte River, and becomes lost beneath "a sugar bowl of stars." Wonder and terror, grief and anger sit side-by-side on these pages.

Family connections, sometimes painful and unyielding, are the bedrock of shared experience. As Bockes writes in "Secret Keepers," "In the unmeasured distance/ between lies and love,/ perhaps our bond was the secret,/ how its soft fabric/ gathered us in."

"In the manner of Northwest poets Richard Hugo and Theodore Roethke, Zan Bockes tells a universal family tale with great eloquence and sincerity. She explores the complex structure created by one family and the ghost architecture that remains in their absence. One cannot help but feel tremendous tenderness and admiration for this poet's story," writes former Montana Poet Laureate Sandra Alcosser.

Bockes was born in Nuremberg, Germany, grew up in Omaha, and earned undergraduate degrees in English and creative writing from the University of Nebraska at Omaha and an MFA in creative writing from The University of Montana in Missoula.

She's been nominated four times for the Pushcart Prize and has published fiction, poetry and nonfiction in various literary magazines. This is her first collection.



— Kristi Niemeyer

### *How Quickly What's Passing Goes Past*

By Lowell Jaeger  
Published 2013 by Grayson Books, West Hartford, CT  
\$16 softcover

In his fifth collection of poems, Lowell Jaeger takes a gentle, nostalgic look at two tumultuous decades.

He casts a glad eye at boyhood, recalling summer baseball, shooting marbles for keeps ("which meant/ you could lose your cat's eyes/ and crystals, even your best precious/ lucky shooter"), riding the Hiawatha Line, and lining up with his brothers for baths, buzz cuts and peanut-butter toast. It's the optimistic '50s, and "Dad was one in a million/ returned from war to marry the girl next door."

Then the Cold War, when the mill closed and "our fathers swung pickaxes and spades,/ excavating the clan's apocalyptic cave/ ... Chugging beers and cursing the Commie threat." At the same time, the mother pinches, perseveres, and tries to bring order to a household of squabbling kids: "I'm not your slave, she'd protest. *Gol darn it anyways!*"

The '60s deliver more change, John Glenn's view of "our planet's pearly blue perfection," air-raid drills, drugs and draft dodgers. And finally, parents grow old, "mutter about the progress of rust," even as boys grow into men.

"This becomes the language of my heart," Jaeger writes in "Some Memories Never Leave." "How these men squeeze in a little laughter/ between shifts at the mill. Making/ music barefoot in their undershorts/ on the curb."

Jaeger, who has taught creative writing at Flathead Community College in Kalispell for 30 years, is also a self-employed silver- and goldsmith. A graduate of the Iowa Writers' Workshop, he's a winner of the Grolier Poetry Peace Prize and recipient of the Montana Governor's Humanities Award. He also edited two compilations, *New Poets of the American West* and *Poems Across the Big Sky*.

His new work "brings to vibrant life a post-World War II cultural landscape that underpins our national identity ... so expertly we can almost touch it, even as we recognize it as irretrievable," writes Washington State Poet Laureate Kathleen Flenniken.

— Kristi Niemeyer

### *Prairie Song, A Meander of Memory*

By DW Groethe  
Published by 2013 by Endeavor Books, Casper, WY  
\$18 softcover

DW Groethe applies his pen to "short, sweet and simple" verse in this new collection, "nothing at all like traditional range poetry full with meter and rhyme" that the ranch hand typically writes.

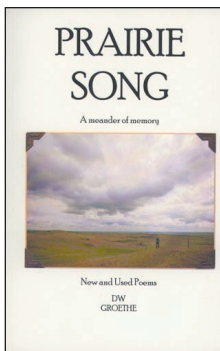
Groethe, who parks his pony in the tiny town of Bainville when he's not sharing poems, songs and stories at folk festivals and cowboy poetry gatherings around the nation, contemplates everything from the weather to moonlight and morning coffee in his new collection.

In "Frustration" he captures the perils of putting up hay: "To the west,/ rain brooms, blue,/ in a butte-sweeping frenzy,/ settle dust and/ drown hopes/ of ever getting/ this damn hay put up."

And in "The Moon Is Falling," he writes, "'Mid a litter of starspeck/ a slip of a sickle/ casts its pale offering .../ Moon shards they are,/ slow dancing, snow dancing/ on to the prairie floor."

The book also includes the author's "used poems" from three previous collections, *West River Waltz* (published in 2006), *My Father's Horses* (2007) and *The Night Ol' Flukie Foundered: Scenes From a Western Life* (2009). These are more traditional, and often playful paeans to ranchlife.

Groethe has performed at the National Cowboy Poetry Gathering, two National Folk Festivals, the Library of Congress and the Kennedy Center. His writing "beautifully evokes the poignant moments and timeless stories of a true citizen of the shortgrass prairie," writes Meg Glaser, artistic director of the Western Folklife Center.



— Kristi Niemeyer



# ABOUT BOOKS

## ***The Ram's Horn Medicine Tree, And Other Stories of Western Montana***

By William W. Whitfield

Published by Stoneydale Press, Stevensville, MT  
\$19.95 softcover

Noted historical author William W. Whitfield of Hamilton weaves together more than 30 stories of fascinating events and people from early-day western Montana.

His new book takes its title from the lead story, that of the famous and sacred Salish medicine tree along the East Fork of the Bitterroot River. The book's cover features a photograph of a group of Salish leaders, including Chief Martin Charlo, taken at the medicine tree in 1923 by Bertie Lord.

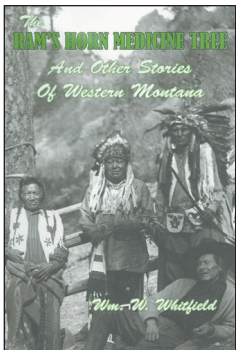
Lord, himself a famous early Bitterroot Valley settler and writer-photographer, is the subject of a chapter of the book and several chapters feature his historic photographs, including one of Jim Hell Rock along the Bitterroot River's East Fork.

Other chapters cover the notorious Calamity Jane (yes, she lived for a time in the Bitterroot Valley), the legend of the Sleeping Child, the famous artist Charles M. "Kid" Russell and his major painting of Lewis and Clark meeting the Salish at Ross' Hole, and the life and times of another well-known artist, Edgar S. Paxson.

Historic events include the vigilante lynching of Walter Jackson in 1903, the coming of the Black Robes to establish St. Mary's Mission in 1841, frontier life at Fort Owen, and Lieutenant John Mullan's escapades in the area when he surveyed and established the Mullan Trail across western Montana.

Other chapters bear such intriguing titles as "A Christmas at Saleesh House," "Gold Creek Gamblers," "The Mystery of the Stone Forts in Western Montana," "The First Car Over the Mountains," "David Thompson's Mammoth Encounter," and "Lewis and Clark and the Lost Art of Astral Projection."

The author originally crafted the stories that make up his new book as a historical columnist for a now-defunct publication. He also wrote *Montana Ghost Towns and Gold Camps*. For more information, visit stoneydale.com.



## ***Opportunity, Montana: Big Copper, Bad Water, and The Burial of An American Landscape***

By Brad Tyer

Published 2013 by Beacon Press, Boston, MA  
\$25.95 hardcover

The removal in 2008 of the Milltown Dam, east of Missoula, allowed the waters of the Clark Fork River to flow freely for the first time in over a century. In his first work of nonfiction, Brad Tyer gives readers the background on this controversial environmental deconstruction and subsequent reconstruction project. At the heart of the matter is the tiny town of Opportunity, built by the Anaconda Company downstream from their Butte copper mining operations.

For decades, Opportunity was the site for dumping tons of toxic waste from the mining and smelting activity in the area. When a site was selected to relocate the toxic sediments accumulated behind the Milltown Dam, Opportunity drew the short straw.

Through his research and numerous conversations with people on differing sides of the issue, Tyer has assembled a picture of the relationship among the environmentalists, various government agencies, the mining company (ARCO), Sen. Max Baucus, local entrepreneur Dennis Washington and concerned citizens.

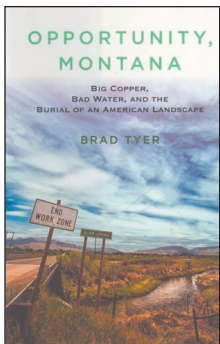
The last thing Opportunity needed was more pollution, but on the other hand, why construct "... a brand new repository on otherwise unspoiled and potentially developable land near an urban center that prizes green space?"

Tyer interviewed Opportunity resident George Niland, a man with "a habit of asking unanswerable questions." Niland poses the query, "Why was the downstream Superfund stretch cleaned up before the upstream work, which will continue sluicing poisons downstream?" Essentially, the relocation is concentrating waste in the vicinity of the headwaters of the Clark Fork.

"I'm not trying to teach anyone a lesson," writes the author. "I wanted to tell the flip side of an environmental success story ... Opportunity is being erased from history, and I'd like people to remember that it's there."

Tyer has worked as an editor at the Missoula *Independent* and the *Texas Observer*, and has contributed articles in several publications, including *Outside* and *The New York Times Book Review*. He is the recipient of the Knight-Wallace Fellowship, a Fund for Investigative Journalism grant, and a Fishtrap writing residency.

— Judy Shafter



## ***Last Stand, Ted Turner's Quest to Save a Troubled Planet***

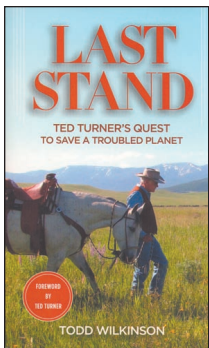
By Todd Wilkinson

Published April 2013 by Lyons Press, Guilford, CT  
\$26.95 hardcover

Listen, media mogul and Montana rancher Ted Turner is saying something surprising here: "Ultimately you have to listen to your heart. I wish I had done that more often, earlier in my life. What I do know is that I'm listening to it now."

This penetrating, expansive book by Bozeman journalist Todd Wilkinson traces Turner's evolution, from a lonely, abused child, to an America's Cup sailing champion, the "Mouth of the South," and creator of the first round-the-clock, all-news network, and finally, to eco-capitalist, bison baron, foe of nuclear proliferation and steadfast supporter of the United Nations.

It's a fascinating metamorphosis and Wilkinson does it justice, interviewing



scores of Turner's friends, family members and associates, from ranch hands to world leaders. He also was granted unprecedented access to, and cooperation from, his subject. "I put faith in his instincts as a respected old-school journalist," writes Turner. "I opened myself up and the result is this open book."

In the past two decades, Turner has wielded his considerable wealth to help create a more sustainable future for all of us. "On my lands, I have set out to prove that the polemic of environment versus economy is a false dichotomy, that you can be a tree hugger and still have your name appear in *Forbes*."

To that end, Turner Enterprises Inc. owns 15 ranches in seven states, populated with the largest private bison herd in the U.S., as well as sandhill cranes, prairie dogs, and countless other plants and critters that comprise a healthy ecosystem. He's an avid birdwatcher and naturalist, who first acquired three bison in 1976 and housed them at his Hope Plantation in South Carolina.

"What started as a less than fully formed desire to give bison a home on the range blossomed into one of the world's most fascinating experiments in wildlife conservation," writes Wilkinson. It's an experiment that is changing ideas about how we manage grasslands, preserve habitat, raise organic food and humanely treat animals raised for human consumption.

In the global arena, Turner has channeled his vast resources into preserving and strengthening the United Nations, making a personal commitment of \$1 billion and establishing the United Nations Foundation, an organization that strives to prevent the spread of HIV/AIDS and malaria, and is currently funding clean energy initiatives around the world.

Turner is also co-chairman, with former U.S. Sen. Sam Nunn, of the Nuclear Threat Initiative. "I'm a peacenik," he says. "My hope is that one day zero nukes will be left on the face of the Earth."

In addition to fleshing out his considerable accomplishments, Wilkinson plumbs Turner's softer side, including his 10-year marriage to actress Jane Fonda and his relationship with his five children, which has matured as they've taken the lead in the Turner Family Foundation.

"Ted is on a mission to save the world and the world should be grateful to have an energetic and imaginative friend," writes newsman Tom Brokaw.

— Kristi Niemeyer

## ***Stories From Montana's Enduring Frontier, Exploring an Untamed Legacy***

By John Clayton

Published 2013 by The History Press, Charleston, SC

\$19.99 softcover

John Clayton's collection of essays illustrates that even though the 20th century brought permanent cities and towns with bustling commerce and industrial activities, Montana still harbored "remote pockets" of places and people largely unchanged by the modernism around them.

"As Montana ran out of frontier, Montanans intensified their relationship with it," writes Clayton. His essays paint portraits of places and characters from all walks of life, explore the term "New West," and offer thoughtful commentary on the economic and romantic faces that constitute "frontier."

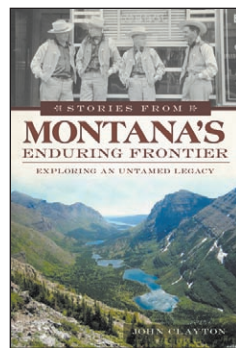
Clayton writes about the origins, and subsequent fates, of the Carnegie Libraries scattered around the state. There is an informative piece about a planned community outside of Billings called Mossmain, a utopian city created by Preston B. Moss, a successful businessman who built the stately Moss Mansion. A 1943 social and cultural project called "The Montana Study" is the topic in the chapter "Community, Enriched by Formula."

Lamenting that a wonderful female author has largely faded from history, Clayton brings her to life in his essay "Resurrecting Haydie Yates." Instead of seeking to civilize the West, Yates reveled in her frontier experience at the foot of the Bighorn Mountains.

The common thread running throughout the work is the concept of "frontier," and how we perceive it, assess it and preserve what is good about it.

Clayton has published articles about history and culture in *Montana Magazine*, the *Montana Quarterly*, and *Montana: The Magazine of Western History*. He is also the author of *The Cowboy Girl*.

— Judy Shafter



## ***Since the Days of the Buffalo, A History of Eastern Montana and the Kalfell Ranch***

By Michael Bugenstein

Published 2013 and distributed by Farcountry Press, Helena, MT

\$24.95 softcover

The Kalfell Ranch, near Terry, owes its origin to the partnership of German immigrant Gottlieb Kalbfell (who later dropped the "b" from his last name) and Edwin Townsend. The two men began a successful sheep ranching operation in 1883.

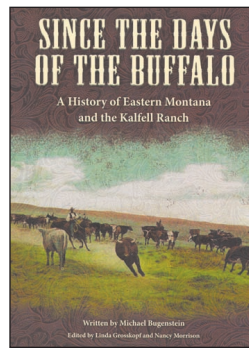
The story of the growth, health, success, decline and reinvigoration of the ranch is woven into a sweeping history of eastern Montana, encompassing events that occurred not just here, but across the nation, and even on the world stage.

Bugenstein became interested in penning this work after he was hired by Lance Kalfell in 2008 to create a detailed map of the ranch. About the time that the author was finishing the map, Kalfell approached him about writing a piece for the Montana Stockgrowers Association, which was assembling a history of the state's 100-year-old ranches. The two men decided to tell a larger story, placing the ranch's history within a more comprehensive look at the region.

The large-format book is well organized, concisely written and, best of all, very interesting. Illustrated with photographs and pictures of historical documents, the pages evoke the character of ranch life in eastern Montana over a century ago — which, in many respects, is the same today.

Bugenstein has produced a series of Montana historical maps. He also works as a conductor for BNSF Railway and lives in Glendive.

— Judy Shafter



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## Send us book ideas

Two Helena publishing companies welcome book ideas.

**Farcountry Press** invites writers, photographers and illustrators to submit their book ideas for consideration.

Farcountry publishes award-winning books on regional popular history, natural history and national parks for a general audience and for children.

The company also publishes color photography books on regions, states, cities and national parks, but generally does not publish poetry or fiction.

Please send book proposals to: Acquisitions, PO Box 5630, Helena, MT 59604. Include a self-addressed, stamped envelope or your materials will not be returned, and do not send original art or photographs. For more information, visit [www.farcountrypress.com](http://www.farcountrypress.com).

**Riverbend Publishing** also welcomes book proposals about Montana and the West. The company publishes award-winning books on regional history, natural history, photography and Glacier and Yellowstone national parks, plus cookbooks and fiction.

Send proposals to Editor, Riverbend Publishing, PO Box 5833, Helena, MT 59604. Visit [www.riverbendpublishing.com](http://www.riverbendpublishing.com) for more information about the company.